

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada (NDEP) is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Federal Clean Water Act.

The Administrator proposes to new a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. NV0023329 to the following applicant:

The Nevada Department of Transportation (permittee)

This permit will continue the regulation of discharges from areas within the State of Nevada, Department of Transportation Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) to Waters of the United States. This permit maintains compliance with the provisions of the U.S. Clean Water Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq: the "Act") and Chapter 445A of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS). Eligible dischargers shall comply with all provisions outlined in the permit and contained within a submitted and approved storm water management plan (SWMP). The scope and coverage of the SWMP shall extend at least to the limits of the urbanized area in Las Vegas Valley. The permittees are required to develop, implement, and enforce a SWMP that reduces the discharge of pollutants from the permittees MS4 to the maximum extent practicable, to protect water quality, and to satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act. The SWMP must be submitted to NDEP no later than one year after the effective date of the permit and fully implement the SWMP within three (3) years of the authorization date of the permit.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue the general permit to discharge, subject to certain limitations and special conditions.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed general permit must submit their comments to:

Cliff Lawson
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
333 West Nye Lane
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

A copy of the fact sheet and draft permit may be obtained from the WEB @
<http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>

Comments must be postmarked no later than January 31, 2004.

Any interested party may request a hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code 445A.238. The request for hearing must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within the comment period will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding this general permit. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date. If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time. The proposed general permit, fact sheet, comments received, and other information are on file and copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Cliff Lawson of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9429 or clawson@ndep.nv.gov.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.